

SVRS Springing Forward...

It's been a busy Spring so far. Since the beginning of March, eight counties have gone live with the SVRS and five others had their final data pull in anticipation of an April 26th go-live. In addition, we completed UAT testing and DataView workshops.

The SVRS deployment has gone well so far. We are addressing some issues related to data conversion and system functionality but overall I'm pleased with the progress we've made. We are still on target for SVRS to be fully deployed and operational by the end of May. The next two months will be important and challenging as we continue conversion to the SVRS and adapt to a new way of doing business.

As I mentioned at the conference, the State will be providing an initial supply of pre-printed card stock for counties to use with the SVRS after going live. In addition, the State purchased folding and tabbing equipment for each county to assist you with your mailings. Please see the article "Mail Room Equipment Coming Soon!" for more information.

We look forward to getting your valuable feedback as we move through the go-live phase of the SVRS project. The Covansys and State teams are here to support you during this time of transition. Thank you for your tremendous efforts over the past month.

-- Mike Gallagher



Special thanks to all the representatives of the following counties for their participation in the DataView process. Your time and hard work is greatly appreciated.

First Round Participants: Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cumberland, Hunterdon, Morris, Somerset, Union and Warren

Second Round Participants: Cape May, Gloucester, Hudson, Middlesex, Monmouth, Salem and Sussex

BITS and PIECES...

...SVRS User Guide

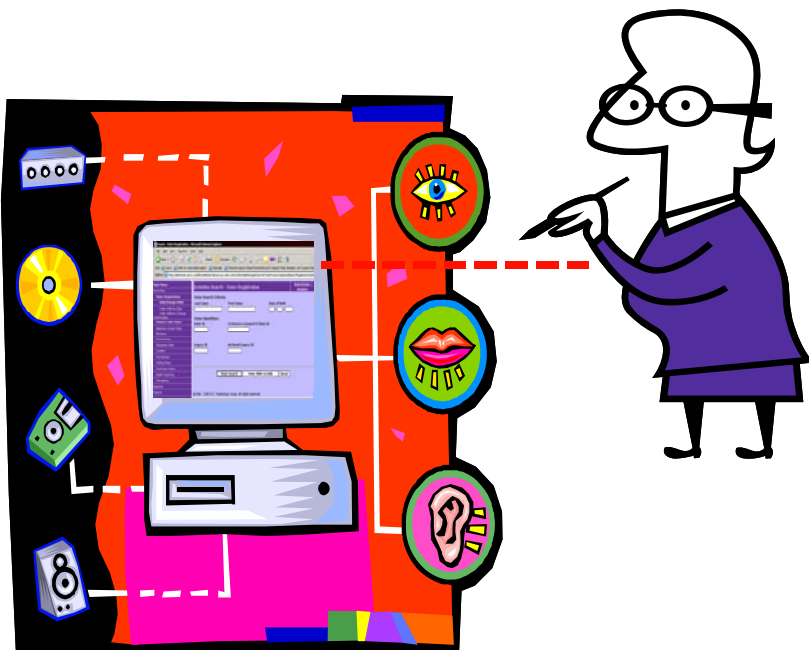
- A new SVRS User Guide is being published to reflect all the changes that have been made to the system since copies were originally distributed to those counties who were trained in the fall. The contents of the binder will be fully replaced, and they will be shipped directly to each office. Those counties who have recently received training did not receive a User Guide – these will be distributed during your Go Live.

...UAT Testing

- UAT Testing was concluded in mid-March, and resulted in the State's approval to begin executing the Go Live schedule. As problems are reported with the application, the State team continues to test those application fixes before they are applied to the production version.

...Deployment

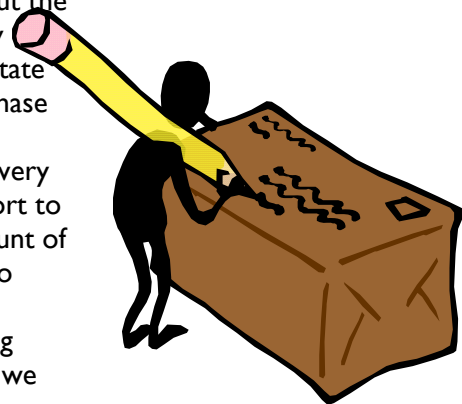
- As application fixes and enhancements are completed, they are deployed to the production application every Friday night. All fixes and new functionality that have been tested and approved by the State during the week will be included in each Friday's deployment. In addition to the Friday deployment, we will have occasional application fixes and patches during the week which will require us to take the system offline. This will happen less frequently as we move forward and resolve issues with the SVRS.



Mailing Equipment Coming Soon!

Over the past few weeks we reviewed the methods that counties use to process voter registration-related cards and notices.

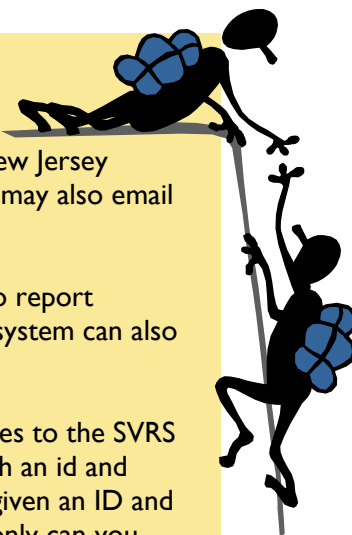
We learned that many counties were operating without the assistance of any machines. The State decided to purchase fold and tab equipment for every county in an effort to reduce the amount of labor required to process cards. After considering several options, we decided to purchase Neopost Folding Machines (PF-45A) and Tabbing Systems (TA50). The State ordered one set of equipment per county.



Neopost will deliver the equipment to the designated contact at each main election office. Our contract with Neopost includes training material and support for each county as well as a three year maintenance contract.

We will be confirming the equipment delivery date over the next few weeks but you can expect to receive your equipment by the end of May. In the meantime, please contact Kathleen Brannigan (609-588-3175) / kathleen.brannigan@lps.state.nj.us if you have any questions.

HELP!!!



In case you were not aware, the Covansys SVRS Help Desk has been up and running for New Jersey support for many weeks. You may contact the Help Desk by calling 1-866-456-9406. You may also email them at havasupport@covansys.com. Or, send a fax to 614-628-4901.

Even if your county has yet to Go Live on SVRS, you may need to contact the Help Desk to report equipment issues (computers, printers, scanners, etc). Counties who are Live on the new system can also call regarding application or data issues.

In addition to calling, emailing or faxing there is a fourth method available for reporting issues to the SVRS Help Desk. It is a tool called JIRA. JIRA is a web-based tool, accessible via the Internet with an id and password. As each county gets up and running on SVRS, each office in that county will be given an ID and password for accessing JIRA, as well as the website link and a brief JIRA User Guide. Not only can you log/report issues in this tool, you can also check the status of issues you previously reported.

S T A T U S U P D A T E

2005

2006

2007

Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb

3/01/05 – 4/15/05 Phase 1 – Project Initiation Phase

- ✓ Project Kickoff Meeting - complete 03/09/05
- ✓ Detailed Project Planning – complete 3/14/05
- ✓ ElectioNet Demo – complete 3/16/05

3/09/05 – 6/03/05 Phase 2 – Business Needs Assessment / Gap Analysis

- ✓ JAD Sessions – complete 4/15/05
- ✓ Requirements Documents Accepted – complete 6/3/05
- ✓ Initial site surveys & site visits – complete 5/12/05

5/03/05 – 8/19/05 Phase 3 – Design and Implementation Planning

- ✓ Technical architectures & database design – complete 8/3/05
- ✓ Pilot and other install schedules - complete 8/3/05
- ✓ Training surveys and schedules - surveys complete 7/21/05, schedules complete 7/26/05 & training locations final 8/12/05

5/09/05 – 3/10/06 Phase 4 – Software Modification and Testing

- ✓ Finalize Implementation Plans –CLIPs for all counties complete 1/27/06
- Conduct User Acceptance Training and Testing – 3/10/06

8/18/05 – 3/15/06 Phase 5 – Pilot Implementation

- ✓ Host install of Hardware and Software – complete 10/26/05
- ✓ Conduct final data conversion – 3/16
- ✓ Train pilot users – completes 10/06/05; refresher training during Go-Live support
- Validate, correct and eliminate duplicates to converted SVRS data – in progress

11/08/05 – 05/19/06 Phase 6 – Staged Rollout & Deployment

- ✓ Host install of Hardware and Software – complete 11/15/05
- Conduct final data conversion – in progress
- Train users – in progress
- Validate, correct and eliminate duplicates to converted SVRS data

3/14/05 – 05/19/06 Phase 7 – Conversion and Interfaces

- ✓ Identify data needs – in progress
- Test, populate, validate, cleanse and refine data - in progress

5/1/06 – 6/30/06 Phase 8 – Project Wrap-up and Transition to Maintenance & Support

- Accept Technical Documentation
- Complete Operational Transition to new SVRS

Maintenance & Support
(through March 2008)